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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/725,515	11/30/2000	Yoichi Kanai	200133US2	8910
22850	7590	03/03/2004	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			VU, THONG H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2142	9
DATE MAILED: 03/03/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/725,515

Applicant(s)

KANAI ET AL.

Examiner

Thong H Vu

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 November 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

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1. Claims 1-54 are pending.
2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 11/30/00 (paper#4); 12/15/03 (paper #7); and 01/07/04 (paper#8) filed after the mailing date of the application on 11/30/00. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 8,11-16,18-20,22,26,34,37-46,48,50,52,54 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claims 27 and 30. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 8,11-16,18-20,22,26,34,37-46,48,50, 52,54 have not been further treated on the merits.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Geiger et al [Geiger, 6,377,810 B1] in view of Downs et al [Downs 6,226,618 B1]
5. As per claim 27, a system for certifying at least existence of electronic information released on a network at a time and date, said network connecting one or

more computer servers and a plurality of client computers [Geiger, attribute certificate, a time and date indicator, col 6 lines 21-42], said system comprising:

- an accessing device (i.e.: client node) configured to access electronic information (i.e.:ID number/ digital signature) stored in a predetermined one of the plurality of client computers using information of its location from one of the computer servers based on a request from one of the client computers [Geiger, mobile device, 15, Fig 4, col 1 lines 50-col 2 line 44];

- an attribute information generating device (i.e.: local server, base station) configured to generate attribute information from at least the location and an access time and date when said step of accessing the electronic information is executed;

- an electronic certificate generating device (i.e.: private/secured gateway/server) configured to generate an electronic certificate by uniquely specifying the electronic information and the attribute information [Geiger, gateway 22, Fig 4];

- an electronic certificate obtaining device (i.e.: database/directory server) configured to obtaining the electronic certificate [Geiger, directory server23, Fig 4]; and

- a storing device (i.e.: disk, memory) configured to store the copy of the electronic information [Geiger, database, col 6 lines 21-42].

However Geiger does not detail a copy device to copy the electronic information;

A skilled artisan would have motivation to implement the certification process and found Downs teaching. Downs discloses a apparatus of securely data to client wherein a copy of the certificate list includes a version number and time stamp was stored [Downs, col 37 line 65-col 38 line 20]

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the format of a security certificate is copied and stored as taught by Downs into the Geiger's apparatus in order to utilize the permission attribute certificate. By doing so would provide a security and reliability to the transaction process via Internet.

6. Claims 30 and 53 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claim 21. Therefore, claims 30 and 53 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claim 21.

7. As per claim 28, Geiger-Downs disclose said storing device is provided in the one of the computer servers, and said electronic information is stored in said storing device by tying up said electronic information with at least the electronic certificate and the attribute information [Geiger, attribute certificate, col 3 lines 17-30]

8. As per claim 29, Geiger-Downs disclose said storing device is provided in the one of the client servers [Geiger, mobile devices 15 and server 21,23, Fig 1].

9. As per claim 29, Geiger-Downs disclose said storing device is provided in the one of the client servers [Geiger, local information, col 2 lines 17-44].

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10. As per claim 31, Geiger-Downs disclose a providing device configured to provide the electronic information together with the applicable electronic certificate and attribute information to the one of the client computers [Geiger, col 3 lines 30-50].

11. As per claim 32, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic information is accessed a second of another computer servers [Geiger, directory server, Fig 1].

12. As per claim 33, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic information is accessed at an interval [Geiger, periods of unauthorized access, col 5 lines 22-47].

13. As per claim 34, Geiger-Downs disclose a link displaying device configured to display one or more links respectively representing the location of the electronic information [Downs, HTML to display, col 33 lines 63-67]; and an accessing device configured to allow a public to access the electronic information using an applicable link, said access allowing device being provided in one of the plurality of client computers [Geiger, mobile network Fig 1, col 2 lines 6-45].

14. As per claim 35, Geiger-Downs disclose said one of the plurality of client computers is a public computer [Downs, PC, col 17 lines 1-5].

15. As per claim 36, Geiger-Downs disclose a detecting device configured to detect a change in contents of the electronic information; and a storing device configured to

store, if the change is detected, the change in addition to the electronic information initially stored [Geiger, detect, col 2 lines 17-44].

16. As per claim 37, Geiger-Downs disclose a database generating device configured to generate a database from one or more electronic information stored in the storing device, said database being provided in one of the computers other than the one of the computer servers and a retrieving device configured to allow public retrieval of the electronic information, said retrieving device being provided in the one of the computers other than the one of the computer servers [Geiger, directory server, Fig 1].

17. As per claim 38, Geiger-Downs disclose an abstract generating device configured to generate one or more abstracts of the electronic information stored in the storing device; a database generating device configured to generate a database from the one or more abstracts, said database being provided in one of the computers other than the one of the computer servers; and a retrieving device configured to allow public retrieval of the abstracts, said retrieving device being provided in the one of the computers other than the one of the computer servers [Geiger, location server, directory server, Fig 1].

18. As per claim 39, Geiger-Downs disclose a storing device configured to store information indicating availability of retrieval of the electronic information via the network

when the electronic information can be retrieved, said storing device being provided in one of the plurality of client computers.

19. As per claim 40, Geiger-Downs disclose said network includes an Internet [Geiger, col 2 lines 6-10].

20. As per claim 41, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic information includes a document described by a markup language generating a web page [Downs, Web site, col 18 lines 10-67].

21. As per claim 42, Geiger-Downs disclose said location information includes a uniform resource locator (URL) [Downs, col 26 lines 35-45].

22. As per claim 43, Geiger-Downs disclose said access condition includes at least any one of an access source IP address of the one of the client computers and a number of access times [Geiger, TCP/IP connection, col 3 lines 50-col 4 lines 40].

23. As per claim 44, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic information is stored in the one of the client computers that makes said request [Geiger, ID number, col 2 lines 17-44].

24. As per claim 45, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic information is accessed at an optional time which an operator of the one of the client computer generating the request is not aware of [Geiger, unique encryption key, col 2 lines 45-50].

25. As per claim 46, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic certificate is generated by a third computer other than the one of the computer servers [Geiger, directory server, Fig 1].

26. As per claim 47, Geiger-Downs disclose said attribute information further includes at least any one of an electronic information displaying period of time, the access source IP address, and a number of access times [Geiger, TCP/IP connection, col 3 lines 50-col 4 lines 40].

27. As per claim 48, Geiger-Downs disclose said uniquely specification is executed by calculating a hash value of both of the electronic information and the attribute information in a prescribed manner as inherent information identifying the electronic information, and assigning the hash value to the applicable electronic certificate Geiger, message hash, col 3 lines 4-16].

28. As per claim 49, Geiger-Downs disclose said access condition is designated by the one of the client computers when the request is made [Downs, access and status, col 49 lines 12-22].

29. As per claim 50, Geiger-Downs disclose a detecting device configured to detect if an object is included in the copy of the electronic information when the copy of the electronic information is provided to the one of the client computers; and a changing device configured to change contents of the copy of the electronic information by describing a reference into the copy for the object to be viewed in the one of the client computers [Geiger, detect, col 2 lines 17-44].

30. As per claim 51, Geiger-Downs disclose said object is one of embedded inline in the electronic Information and referred to as an external resource [Geiger, Internet, col 2 lines 6-10].

31. As per claim 52, Geiger-Downs disclose said electronic information is accessed either via the Internet or with a computer readable medium [Geiger, Internet, col 2 lines 6-10].

32. As per claim 54, Geiger-Downs disclose said uniquely specifying is executed by calculating a hash value of both of the electronic information and the attribute information in a manner as inherent information identifying the electronic information, and assigning the hash value to the applicable electronic certificate [Downs, computing a hash algorithm, col 11 lines 14-37].

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33. Claims 1-3 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claims 27-29.

Therefore, claims 1-3 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claims 27-29.

34. Claims 4-26 contain the similar limitations set forth of apparatus claims 30-52.

Therefore, claims 4-26 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claims 30-52.

35. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Thong Vu, whose telephone number is (703)-305-4643.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00AM- 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Jack Harvey*, can be reached at (703) 305-9705.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to: Commissioner of Patent and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 or faxed to :

After Final (703) 746-7238

Official: (703) 746-7239

Non-Official (703) 746-7240

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park 11,2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Thong Vu
Patent Examiner
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